

Lena Cano House  
River Street Historic District  
338 W. St. James Street  
San Jose  
Santa Clara County  
California

HABS No. CA-2390

HABS  
CAL  
43-SANJOS,  
28-

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

**WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Western Region  
Department of the Interior  
San Francisco, California 94107

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Lena Cano House

HABS No. CA-2390

HABS  
CAL  
43-SANJOS  
28-

**Location:** 338 West St. James Street, River Street Historic District  
San Jose, Santa Clara County, California  
UTM Coordinates: 10-597680-4132530

**Significance:** The Lena Cano House, due to its architectural integrity and contribution to the urban fabric, forms an integral part of the River Street Historic District, a rare intact late nineteenth century and early twentieth century working class neighborhood in San Jose.

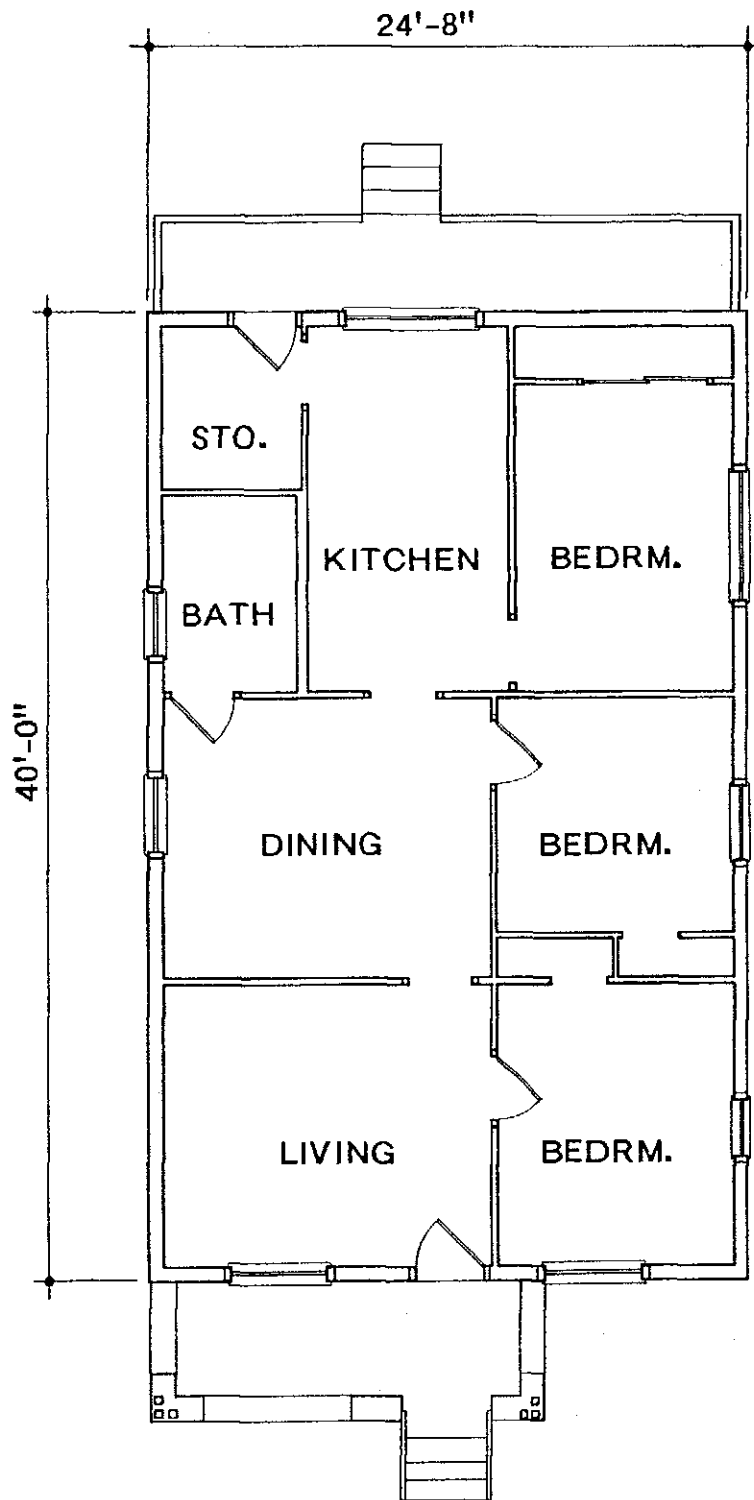
**Description:** The Lena Cano House is a one-story wood framed cottage with a hipped roof. It is clad in V-groove rustic siding and has a wood shingle roof. It includes a shed-roofed porch, offset to the east of the facade. In style and structure it is quite similar to the houses at 366 and 352 West St. James Street. The front facade is clad in horizontal siding, and the rear portion of the house is clad in a wider V-groove rustic siding than that of the main house.

The main portion of the cottage (under the hipped roof) contains four rooms: two bedrooms, a living area, and a kitchen/dining area. The flat-roofed addition to the rear contains an updated kitchen, a third bedroom, and a bathroom. An open deck-like porch extends across the full length of the rear elevation. The front facade is composed in three bays, with the front door in the center leading into the living area. The bedrooms in both the main cottage and rear addition are arranged along the west wall, with the kitchen, dining, and utility areas along the east wall.

**History:** This address first appears in the directories in 1916, where it was used as a rental unit. By 1924, the house was owned by Lena Cano who lived here with her husband Manual Cano, a Portuguese-born teamster. Manual Cano died in the mid 1940s and his wife continued to live here until the mid-1950s. The Canos first started renting a unit on their property in 1934.

**Sources:** California Historic Resources Inventory Form, prepared by  
Stephen D. Mikesell, 1988.  
San Jose City Directories.  
San Jose 1924 Block Map.

**Historian:** Hardlines: Design & Delineation  
Columbus, Ohio & Bethesda, Maryland  
July - October, 1993



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

1/8" = 1' - 0"